

Message Text

SECRET

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S E C R E T RABAT 3429

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR US AG

SUBJ: ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR ON US-ALGERIAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

1. DURING DISCUSSION MAINLY ON OTHER SUBJECT JULY 19, ALGERIAN AMB DELlici TOOK I ZOIATIVE TO RAISE SUBJECT OF US-ALGERIAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. HE RECOUNTED THAT WHEN FORMER SECY ROGERS HAD BEEN IN RABAT, MOROCCANS HAD CALLED HIM TO MEET WITH ROGERS PRIVATELY. DURING MEETING, ALGERIAN HAD SAID TWO OBSTACLES--VIETNAM AND MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT--STOOD BETWEEN US AND ALGERIA. ROGERS HAD REPLIED THAT VIETNAM WOULD END, BUT NO ONE COULD MAKE FIRM PREDICTIONS ABOUT ME CONFLICT. ALGERIAN HAD TELEPHONED BOUMEDIENE SAME NIGHT TO REPORT THIS CONVERSATION, AND BOUMEDIENE HAD TOLD HIM THAT IF US COULD ARRIVE AT "HALF-SOLUTIONS" FOR THESE PROBLEMS WHICH WOULD EVENTUALLY LEAD TO FULL SOLUTIONS, ALGERIA COULD RESUME DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

2. AT PRESENT TIME, ALGERIAN CONTINUED, VIETNAM BEHIND US AND ME CONFLICT HALF SOLVED. IT WAS HIS PERSONAL VIEW THEREFORE THAT ONCE GENEVA CONFERENCE WAS UNDERWAY AND APPEARED TO BE GOING WELL, THERE WOULD BE NO FURTHER OBSTACLES TO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. AFTER ALL, HE NOTED, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP ALREADY CLOSE, WITH BROAD RANGE OF MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL CONTACTS.

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